

WIRRAL COUNCIL

TRANSFORMATION AND RESOURCES POLICY & PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

01 February 2016

SUBJECT:	<i>WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE REPORT</i>
REPORT OF:	<i>THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE</i>

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report updates Members on the current position regarding the work programme for the Transformation and Resources Policy & Performance Committee.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

2.1 The Transformation and Resources Policy & Performance Committee is responsible for proposing and delivering an annual work programme. This work programme should align with the corporate priorities of the Council and be informed by service priorities and performance, risk management information, public or service user feedback and referrals from Cabinet or Council.

2.2 In determining items for the Scrutiny Work Programme, good practice recommends the following criteria could be applied:

- Public Interest – topics should resonate with the local community
- Impact – there should be clear objectives and outcomes that make the work worthwhile
- Council Performance – the focus should be on improving performance
- Keeping in Context – should ensure best use of time and resources

2.3 The work programme is made up of a combination of scrutiny reviews, standing items and requested officer reports. This provides the committee with an opportunity to plan and regularly review its work across the municipal year. The current work programme for the Committee is attached as **Appendix 1**.

3.0 TRANSFORMATION AND RESOURCES POLICY & PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

3.1 At the previous Transformation and Resources Policy & Performance Committee meeting held on 3rd December, Committee agreed to convene a Task & Finish scrutiny review on Freedom of Information. A request for volunteers has been issued to Members to form the scrutiny review panel and a scoping meeting will be scheduled once the panel membership has been confirmed. It is hoped that this review will commence in February 2016.

- 3.2 It was agreed to request an update report regarding the progress of the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system, for presentation at the March Committee meeting. This has been added to the work programme.

4.0 PREVIOUS / CURRENT SCRUTINY REVIEWS – UPDATE

4.1 Disaster Recovery Scrutiny Review

A single evidence session for the Task & Finish scrutiny review on the Council's disaster recovery arrangements is to be arranged and it is anticipated that this will be held in February.

4.2 Libraries Scrutiny Review

A Task & Finish scrutiny review on libraries has been deferred until early 2016 to allow Panel members to receive a number of reports which, it is hoped, will inform the scope of the review. These reports include information from the Leisure and Culture Review, the impact of the Savings Programme and the impact of reduced opening hours. As libraries are also subject to further service changes as part of the 2016/17 budget proposals, it was further agreed by the Chair and Party Spokespersons that the scrutiny review of libraries should take place after internal scrutiny and public consultation of the latest budget proposals. The work programme has been updated to reflect this and it is hoped that this work will commence in March 2016.

5.0 WIRRAL PLAN WORKSHOPS

- 5.1 Members will be aware that three workshops were held in early November to enable members to consider the delivery of the Wirral Plan. The workshops covered each of the three themes: People, Business and Environment. The outcomes of the workshops were consolidated into a single report and presented to a meeting of the Coordinating Committee on 10th December 2015. Feedback from the workshops has been provided to the authors of the appropriate strategy documents as they are developed and finalised.

6.0 2016/17 BUDGET SCRUTINY WORKSHOPS

- 6.1 A series of scrutiny workshops for each of the three Policy & Performance Committees to consider the Council's budget proposals for 2016/17 have now been held. The workshop for the budget options within the Transformation & Resources remit was held on Thursday 14th January. The outcomes from all workshops will form the basis of a single report which will be presented to Coordinating Committee on 16th February.

7.0 PROGRESS IMPLEMENTING PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Local Welfare Assistance Scheme

A full report detailing the progress made on implementing the recommendations from the scrutiny review is to be presented to this committee meeting and is included as a separate item on this agenda.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 Members are requested to approve the Transformation and Resources Policy & Performance Committee work programme for 2015/16 and to determine the prioritisation of Task & Finish Scrutiny Reviews.

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